



Abstract Proceedings of the Travancore Legislative Council.

An extraordinary meeting of the Council was held in the Dewan's room, Public Offices, at 1 P. M. on Saturday the 4th August 1894, to consider the Jenmi and Tenant Bill as amended by the Select Committee.

PRESENT.

The Dewan—*Presiding.*

M. R. Ry. K. Krishnaswamy Rao Avergal.
Mr. F. Watts.
M. R. Ry. V. Nagam Iyer Avergal.
M. R. Ry. P. Thanu Pillay Avergal.
M. R. Ry. Kerala Varma Avergal, the Valia Coil Thampuram.
M. R. Ry. N. Madhavan Thumbay Avergal.
M. R. Ry. E. Rama Iyer Avergal.

The Secretary presented the following papers received since the last meeting. As copies were previously furnished to the members, they were taken as read :—

From whom received.	Purport.
The inhabitants of Chenganur.	Suggesting amendments to the Jenmi and Tenant Bill.
Krishnan Narayanan and others of Alengad.	Do. Do.
Ramen Ramen of Chenganur.	Do. Do.
Mathai Jacob Cathanar of Poonyat.	Protests against the provisions of the Bill being applied to the Pooniyat Edavagay.
M. R. Ry. K. Krishnaswamy Rao Avergal.	Stating that he intends to apply for permission to introduce a Bill for the amendment of the Civil Procedure Code.

The President observed that the most vital point was the definition of 'Jenmom land' which as given in the Bill, he considered defective and misleading with reference to the broad distinction recognised in the State accounts between Sirkar lands and Jenmom lands and to the peculiarity of the tenure on which the

Edavagays were held. In this connection the Proclamation of 1042 should be carefully construed that its true spirit might receive full recognition in the measure under consideration. Whether the term 'Jenmi' was intended to apply exclusively to Brahmaswam and Devaswam lands or was meant to be extended to all proprietors of land in which the interest of the tenant was more or less co-extensive with that of a person holding of a Brahmin-Jenmi should be primarily discussed and settled.

Mr. Watts said that it was very necessary to enunciate at once the policy of Government as to the persons to be brought within the definition. He was in favour of extending the term so as to take in Sudra Jennies who from early times have granted their lands on Kanapattom tenure, renewable every 12 years, with all the accustomed fees payable to Brahmin Jennies by their tenants. As the policy of the Government was to protect the tenant whose holding from ancient usage had become hereditary, from being ousted at the will of the Jenmi, he saw no reason why the tenants of the Sudra Jenmi should be placed in a different position from those of the Brahmin Jenmi.

Mr. Thanu Pillay was also of the same opinion.

A discussion ensued in which the general principles underlying the question were considered; and Mr. Rama Iyer moved that the amendment as well as the other definitions lie over for consideration at the next meeting.

Mr. Thanu Pillay seconded the motion.

Carried.

Taking advantage of the presence of some of the Jennies, such as Karuthedathu Pazhoor Namburipad and Kumaramangalath Namburipad, the Council consulted them in regard to the various points urged in the Memorials from the Jennies.

Karuthedathu Pazhoor Namburipad said that there was great difficulty in punctually recovering Michavarom and other dues from the tenants and a civil suit in each case meant not only inconvenience and delay, but also expenditure in the shape of Court fees, Vakil's fees &c. He urged that some summary method should be provided by which the payment of these dues might be secured without the aid of the Courts and suggested for the consideration of the Council that, on a tenant failing to pay at the end of the year, the Jenmi should be at liberty to set off the dues against the *kayom* paid as consideration for the grant of the land.

He was informed that remedial measures would be considered in due time.

Mr. Jacob John B.A., B.L. and Mr. Mathai Ousep were also heard on behalf of tenants who held lands under the Thiruvalla and Poonyat Rajas.

The Council then adjourned to Tuesday, the 7th August 1894.